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LETTER DATED 14 MARCH 1994 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit, enclosed herewith, a letter dated 11 March 1994 from His Excellency, Mr. Radoje Kontić, Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, addressed to you.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIĆ
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

In accordance with United Nations Security Council resolution 871 (1993) of 4 October 1993, the mandate of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in the United Nations Protected Areas (UNPAs) was extended until 31 March 1994.

According to this Security Council resolution and other relevant United Nations documents, UNPROFOR is to remain in the UNPAs until a comprehensive political settlement of the Yugoslav crisis is found and its mandate is to be renewed if such a solution is not achieved through negotiations.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia supports the Vance plan and is interested in its full respect and implementation by all. In this context, it is not necessary to make special mention of the importance of the UNPROFOR presence in the past, since it is precisely UNPROFOR that has ensured the consistent implementation of the Vance plan, enabled the maintenance of fragile peace and prevented further confrontation of the parties to the conflict. On its part, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia will strive to facilitate the UNPROFOR peace mission in the former Yugoslavia and contribute, within the limits of its possibilities, to reducing the peace mission costs.

Since your reports indicate that the Security Council is about to make a new decision on the extension of the UNPROFOR mandate, I wish to inform you that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia considers that conditions have not yet been created for terminating the UNPROFOR peace mission and that the UNPROFOR presence in the UNPAs is necessary until a political settlement is reached. Furthermore, we consider that, at the time of any possible engagement of new United Nations troops or their regular replacement, attention should be paid to which countries should send their troops to this territory, i.e. for historical reasons it would be inappropriate to engage troops from Yugoslavia's neighbour countries or from the former occupiers of these lands.

I take this opportunity to express our appreciation and gratitude for your peace efforts aimed at achieving lasting peace and a just solution in the former Yugoslavia and to tell you that I still remember the exceptionally constructive talks I had with you during my recent visit to New York. You can continue to count on the full cooperation and assistance of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Confident that our request for a new extension of the UNPROFOR mandate in the UNPAs will be met with understanding, I assure you of my highest consideration and send you my best regards.

Radoje KONTIĆ